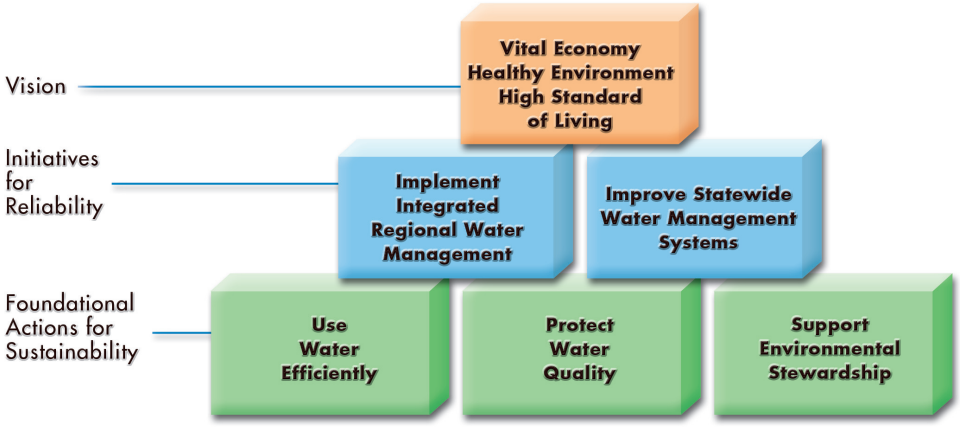
# The Roadma




California needs a **sustainable** and **reliable** water supply in 2030. To ensure that our water use is **sustainable**, California water management must be based on three foundational actions:

- Use water efficiently
- Protect water quality
- Manage water in ways that protect and restore the environment

To ensure that our water supplies are **reliable**, water management must pursue two initiatives that incorporate these actions:

- Promote and practice integrated regional water management
- Maintain and improve statewide water management systems, the backbone of water management in California

California Water Plan Update 2005 is a roadmap for meeting the state's water demands through the year 2030. It identifies the most pressing water management issues and challenges affecting the state and its regions. It also recommends policies, management strategies, and collaborative approaches that will help balance and guide future investments to make the most of our groundwater and surface water resources. These recommendations are listed at the end of the Highlights and detailed in the Implementation Plan in Volume 1 of Update 2005.

# p to 2030

## Actions to Ensure Sustainability

To minimize the impacts of water management on California's natural environment and ensure that our state continues to have the water supplies it needs, Californians must **use water efficiently** to get maximum utility from existing supplies. Californians are already leaders in water use efficiency measures such as conservation and recycling. Because competition for California's limited water resources is growing, we must continue these efforts and be innovative in our pursuit of efficiency. Water use efficiency will continue to be a primary way that we meet increased demand.

In the future, we must broaden our definition of efficient water use to include other ways of getting the most utility out of our groundwater and surface water resources and water management systems:

- Increase levels of urban and agricultural water use efficiency
- Increase recycled municipal water and expand its uses
- Reoperate water facilities to improve their operation and efficiency
- Facilitate environmentally, economically, and socially sound transfers to avoid regional shortages
- Reduce and eliminate groundwater overdraft

As California's population grows from 36.5 million to 48 million, there is bound to be an effect on California's environment. By wringing every bit of utility from every drop of water, Californians can stretch water supplies and help ensure continued economic, social, and environmental health.

California must also **protect water quality** to safeguard public and environmental health and secure the state's water supplies for their intended uses. Water supply and water quality are inseparable in water management. While implementing projects to reduce water demand or to augment supply, water managers must employ methods and strategies that protect and improve water quality:

- Protect surface waters and aquifers from contamination
- Explore new treatment technologies for drinking water and groundwater remediation
- Match water quality to its intended uses
- Improve management of urban and agricultural runoff
- Improve watershed management

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